

A

# REVIEW

OF THE

# STATE

OF THE

# BRITISH NATION

---

Saturday, August 5. 1710

---

**I** Gave you the Original in one of my last, of this fair Lady we call CREDIT; I must pursue an Enquiry about her; for since she is so slighted, so dishonour'd, and so meanly thought of among you, it is but meet that I should let you know who it is, you put so much Contempt upon — Perhaps it may move you, to shew more Breeding to a Lady of her Quality, for your own sakes, and that before she represents it so much, as to remove her Lodging.

I told you, this Lady chiefly delighting in Business, apply'd her self to that part of the World, which is concern'd in Trade, Commerce, Merchandizing, and Manu-

facturing; here she vouchsafed to Sociate with the meanest Shop-keeper, Country Wooll-Comber, or petty Chapmen, to Encourage good Husbandry, Diligence, and Industry, for the general Improvement of Mankind — In her Conversation thus far below her self, she yet keeps up the Majesty and Dignity of her Nature and Original; she will keep Company with none but the Industrious, the Honest, the Laborious, and such, whose Genius, and the Bent of their Lives, tends to Maintain her good Opinion: If a Tradesman neglect his Shop, a Handicraft grows idle, runs to the Alehouse; if a Dealer turns Sot, or a Gentleman Debauch'd — She's gone, away.

way she flies, they are sure to be forsaken of her Company, they may go on by meer Strength of Stock, and upon the help she formerly afforded them — But they must expect no more Assistance from her, till they take up, turn over a new Leaf, and reform the Crime.

If the lights of a Young Man full of Application, sober, sensible, and honest, that lays his Bones to his Work, and his Head to his Business; that doats upon his Shop, that has his Heart behind his Counter, whose Mistress is his Counting House, and his Pleasure is in his Ledger — She'll set him up without a Stock, marry him without a Portion; she will stand at his Door to invite his Customers, she will buy Goods for him in every Ware-House, she will lay him in a Stock, and furnish his Shop without Payment; *in short*, she will make him Rich, *as we say*, in spite of his Teeth. — She'll support him, she'll carry him through the World upon her Shoulders — When he walks, she leads him; when he sleeps, she awakes for him, and when he swims, she holds him by the Chin.

Let us leave this part of her Conduct, and View her in Publick Business; and here we find her Conversant, as I noted before, in Banks, Exchanges, Exchequers, in the publick Treasuries, and Finances, of Princes, of Nations — And here it is that I am to Examine her Conduct, her absolute Authority, her Application, her Usefulness, the Necessity all the World stands in, of her help, and the languishing, weak, despised Condition of the most Flourishing Nation, when she has abandoned them.

I remember, when formerly I Discours'd of this Coy Lady, in her publick Capacity, I gave you the short History of her Treatment in this Country, how she liv'd and flourish'd here, in ancient Times — I'll go back a little; King *Harry V.* brought her over from *France*; she hid her self in the Broils of *Harry VI.* she shou'd the Crooked Tyrant *Richard III.* for fear he should Ravish her: *K. Henry VII.* disoblig'd her by his Covetousness; and *K. Henry VIII.* lost her Favour by immoderate

profuseness: *Nois here by the Way*, a dishonourable Covetousness, is as much an Enemy to *Credit*, as extravagant Wasting; because a Covetous Man, I mean such a one as will break his Word to keep his Money, as well as the other, regards no Honour, that he may squander it away — *K. Edward VI.* began to be acquainted with this Lady, and she grew fond of him, but his Ambitious Uncles made her uneasy, and the Young King died too soon, before he could get her to settle here — Queen *Mary* knew nothing of her, till she Married King *Phillip* of *Spain*, and he brought her over with him — But as she came with him, she went with him too, and Queen *Elizabeth* came to the Crown without her — She was a wise Princess, and quickly found the want of her; but having rummaged all *Europe* for her, there was no finding her high nor low; her *Dudly* sought her in *Holland*, but lost more of her than he carried over — The Queen sent over to *K. Henry IV.* of *France* for her, but she was not there: *ESSEX* rummag'd *Ireland*, invaded *Spain*, Plunder'd *Cadiz*, Insulted *Lisbon*, but got no Credit there: *Sir Francis Drake* sailed round the World, and yet came Home without her — At last she was brought Home in a Great Ship of Silver, taken from the *Spaniards*, and the Queen Coin'd her into broad Shillings — Yet she never lov'd Queen *Elizabeth*, and a little before her Death, both she, and her Kinswoman *Reputation* left that Queen entirely; some say her Treatment of the Queen of *Scots*, and the Earl of *Essex* disoblig'd the one, and old *Burleigh's* Covetousness the other; but certain it is, that Queen *Elizabeth* out-liv'd the Favour of both these Ladies — And by Consequence when King *James* came hither, he had no Acquaintance with either of them, but what little he had obtain'd in *Scotland*, and that he quickly lost here — For he liv'd and died without her.

King *Charles I.* used her Civilly, and Courted her very much at first, but he fled to so many Shifts, and little Methods to uphold his Interest in her Favour, that he fled for fear of being brought into the Star-Chamber; and when the War broke out



Out——She went over to the Parliament——They Hugg'd and Embrac'd her, carry'd her into the City, and plac'd her in the *Guild-Hall* there, in great Pomp and State; immediately the Thimbles and Bodkins, the Plate, the Money, came tumbling in so fast, that it was no Wonder the Parliament was too hard for the King——They kept her all the three first Years of the War, till they fell out among themselves, and then truly she was fairly a going; but *Oliver Cromwell* got hold of her, took her Prisoner, and when he had her in his Clutches, he kept her by Force——And whether for Fear of his High-Commission Court, or for Fear he should Commit a Rape upon her——She stay'd with him to the Day of his Death: Whether she fled after that, I know not; but she was lost for a Time; 'twas thought Cardinal *Mazarine*

had got her into *France*——However she came over again at the Restoration and began to think of settling here, but King *Charles II.* so disoblig'd her, by shutting-up the Exchequer, and the City by their Chamber-Cheat, that she turn'd her back upon them both, in a great Passion, and there was great Reason to fear she had forsaken our Country.

How she came over again at the Revolution, declin'd us a little at the calling in the Old Money, reviv'd a little upon the new Coin——And how she has, at last, with infinite Difficulty, exquisite Coöduë, and the most nice Honour in Management of the Treasury, been brought to a cheerful Residence among us: What she has done for us, and what may be the Consequence of disobliging her again, remains to be spoken of.

## MISCELLANEA.

THE Author of this Paper craves Pardon of the Reader, to interrupt the Affair for once, to Answer a Gentleman, who has sent a most extraordinary Letter to Mr. Baker the Publisher; concerning a Word in the Review, which it seems Affronted him: I'll state the Case first fairly, and then give him my Answer briefly, and the World shall judge of the Matter.

In the Review N<sup>o</sup> 53, speaking of the Peculiarities of Nations, I Printed this Expression——“Why the French are hasty, the Spaniard slow, the German terrible, the Pole unconstant, the Swede brave, the Scots furious, the Italian jealous, the Portuguese effeminate, the Dutch parsimonious, the Irish simple? &c.

The Gentleman taking Offence at this Expression, has been pleas'd to send the following Letter to Mr. Baker, Publisher of this Paper; which I here put in, Word for Word, without any Enlargement, only omitting the Gentleman's Name, in Civili-

lity to him, because I would not expose him.

Mr. Baker,  
YOUR Friend De Foe, as I told you, gives himself damn'd Airs, to reflect on the Kingdom of Ireland, as Simple, without Reserve or Distinction: Is it because the Protestants of that Kingdom distinguish'd themselves so gloriously in the happy Revolution; and from that time to this Day, have retain'd that Principle, and have distinguish'd themselves Eminently, in the late and present War?

Is it because the Protestants of that Kingdom in general, (except some saucy fiery Clergy-men) are steady and sincere for the Protestant Succession? Can Mr. De Foe say, that there's any part of her Majesty's Dominions so Unanimous and Steady for the Protestant Interest and Succession, as the Protestants of Ireland are, who can raise (I may safely say) 150000 fighting Men in the Province of Ulster, of Revolution-Principle, and for the Hanover Succession? By the Word Irish, is meant those that are Born in that Kingdom, and born:



have the greatest Power in it, which is the Protestant Party; so by the same Authority that Mr. De Foe reflects on that Kingdom and Party, if he does not recant and explain himself, I will take care that he shall be duly Chastized, si inventus; if not, a Reward shall be offer'd in the Post-Boy, to any Person that will discover him to an Honest Whig.

London July 27. 1710.

Now the Answer the Author of the Review gives to this Gentleman, is, to desire he will consider a few Questions.

1. How he makes it appear, that, as he pretends to explain it, by the Word *Irish* is meant, those that are born in that Kingdom, and have the greatest Power in it? — And if that does not appear who is in the wrong, he or the Author?
2. Whether by the Word *IRISH*, as commonly spoken, is not always understood, both in Print, as well as in common Acceptation, the Native *Irish* of that Kingdom, distinguish'd by the Name of *Irish*, from the Protestant Inhabitants of that Kingdom?
3. Whether his taking it otherwise, does not go farther, to make the Review's Observation just, if it had meant the other Way, than any thing the Author has written about it?
4. Whether he thinks the Character, given by the Author of the Review to the *Irish*, be the Review's own, or not? — And whether he cannot bring more Authors to justify it, than this Gentleman can bring Rules to prove, that he has pass'd a right Censure, or Treated the Review with good Manners?
5. Whether he thinks the Review has wrong'd the *Irish*, or not; and whether a new, known and Popular Author, has not abundantly justified his Expression, viz. The Author of a Letter, from one Member of Parliament to another, from North to South Britain — Just now Printed and Pub-

lish'd at Edinburgh; wherein the Author, a Person of Quality, speaking of the People there, being amus'd with the Rumors of Publick Affairs, has this Expression, I doubt not but all this Originally comes from England, tho' it is so very senseless and ridiculous, that it might have been bred in AN IRISH HEAD?

Whether this Gentleman therefore has read the Review, with his *English* or *Irish* Understanding, I know not — I know as well as he, what kind of Protestants, Inhabit both the North and the East part of Ireland, and have as much Honour for them, as himself: But if I were to meet any one of these, and call him an *Irish Man*, he would think me in the wrong, and say he was an *English Man*, or a *Scots Man* of Ireland — But a meer Native *Irish Man*, that Winks when he Fires, and draws his Horses by the Tail — If these are wrong'd by me — I have their Pardon to ask, and not this Gentleman's, who but for his Name, I should really have taken for an *Irish Man*, by his wise Judgment of the Review.

As to his Proposal of Chastizing the Author of the Review, — it is answer'd; When his Advertisement with the Reward, is publish'd in the Post-Boy, he shall hear farther; perhaps he may see the Author of the Review is not so hard to be found, as he imagine: — He Subscribes himself an honest Whigg, if he be such, I must tell him, Assassinations and Publick Threatnings of People, are none of their Principle; the honest People of *Ulster*, that he would Fancy Injur'd, do not practise them — And as honest a Whigg as he, is not to be scar'd by them.

#### ERRATA.

REVIEW N<sup>o</sup> 56. p. 218. Col. 1. l. 19. for as much of it into their Hands, r. as much of it as they can into their Hands; ib. col. 2. l. 10. for what see, r. what the see; ib. l. 31. for upon the most Essential. r. is upon the most Essential; p. 220. col. 1. l. the last, for in another, r. in one another.

Printed for and sold by John Baker, at the Black-Boy in Pater-Noster-Row. 1710.